

BA 1694
West House
Cliffholme Road
Owings Mills, Md.
Private

This rather correct rendition of a Maryland House of the late eighteenth or very early nineteenth century was designed by Baltimore architects Parker, Thomas and Rice Assoc., with Harold Holmes Wrenn, 1926. This trend toward greater authenticity culminated in the Williamsburg restoration project of the same period.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

BA 1694

x-873.100

y-572.130

MAGI #0316942804

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC

ROBIN HILL

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

Cliffholme Road

CITY, TOWN

Owings Mills

___ VICINITY OF

Second

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

Baltimore

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

___DISTRICT

☒ BUILDING(S)

___STRUCTURE

___SITE

___OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

___PUBLIC

☒ PRIVATE

___BOTH

PUBLIC ACQUISITION

___IN PROCESS

___BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

☒ OCCUPIED

___UNOCCUPIED

___WORK IN PROGRESS

ACCESSIBLE

___YES: RESTRICTED

___YES: UNRESTRICTED

☒ NO

PRESENT USE

___AGRICULTURE

___MUSEUM

___COMMERCIAL

___PARK

___EDUCATIONAL

☒ PRIVATE RESIDENCE

___ENTERTAINMENT

___RELIGIOUS

___GOVERNMENT

___SCIENTIFIC

___INDUSTRIAL

___TRANSPORTATION

___MILITARY

___OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

John H. and Jeanne West

Telephone #: 363-1554

STREET & NUMBER

Cliffholme Road

CITY, TOWN

Owings Mills

___ VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

Maryland 21117

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,

REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Baltimore County Courts Bldg.

Liber #: 2877

Folio #: 330

STREET & NUMBER

401 Bosley Avenue

CITY, TOWN

Towson,

STATE

Maryland

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE

___FEDERAL ___STATE ___COUNTY ___LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

BA-1694

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		DATE _____

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Dating from ca. 1926, the WEST HOUSE recalls a prosperous Maryland house of the late eighteenth or very early nineteenth century. It is two storeys in height, five bays in length, of stuccoed-masonry construction. Both its south and north facades are of equal importance but the shallow porch at the latter identifies it as the principal entrance. A porch with a gabled roof suggests an east wing. A service wing at the west end is two bays in length, nearly two storeys in height, its windows rising just above its cornice with small dormer-gables above. Broad stuccoed chimneys rise flush above each gable of the dwelling and a massive chimney, partially internally, partially projecting, rises at the west gable of the service wing. Windows are 6/6; those of the first storey have paneled shutters, those of the second louvered blinds. Three dormers are in each slope of the roof.

The principal or north entrance with its leaded semi-elliptical transom opens to a small vestibule with closet and powder room on either side; an inner door has a matching leaded fanlight transom. The center hall is flanked by a single large room on the east, a large and small room on the west. The staircase rises, with intermediate landings, open to the third floor; the rounded rail is supported by round balusters and colonnette newels; step ends are embellished with scrolls. The drawing room to the east has a fireplace centered on its east wall; an architrave surround supports a frieze at the firebox and arched bookcases are on either side. The dining room to the west has a fireplace centered in its west wall with a mantel of the Greek Doric order with triglyphs in the frieze. A small library or den is in the northwest corner and the fireplace centered on its west wall has a shouldered architrave surround, a corner cupboard to its south and bookshelves to its north. Pantry and kitchen are in the west wing. Other interior details recall those of prototypes: plastered walls and ceilings, wood chair rail, simple cornices and architrave trim at openings.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

PERIOD		AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)	
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION			

SPECIFIC DATES

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

This rather correct rendition of a Maryland House of the late eighteenth or very early nineteenth century was designed by Baltimore architects Parker, Thomas and Rice associated with Harold Holmes Wrenn, 1926. This trend toward greater authenticity culminated in the Williamsburg restoration project of the same period.

The West House was built in 1926 by Mr. and Mrs. Loring Cover on land purchased from Redmond and Katherine Stewart a few months before.¹ This was part of the original Cliffeholme property that had been owned by Mr. Stewart's family. There is a tombstone to the right of the entrance gate where the son of a previous owner is buried having died at an early age. It is now overgrown.²

The house has had only four owners - the Covers,³ by whom it was built, Mr. and Mrs. Edward Lyon, Mr. and Mrs. Rexford Wheeler⁴ and Mr. and Mrs. West who have furnished it with lovely colonial furniture in keeping with its architecture.

Footnotes

¹ Baltimore County Land Records (BCLR), County Courts Bldg., Towson, Md. Liber 631, fol. 90.

² As related by Mrs. Cover from Mr. Stewart.

³ BCLR, Liber 974, fol. 425.

⁴ BCLR, Liber 2835, fol. 133.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Baltimore County Land Records, Baltimore County Courts Bldg., Towson, Md.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY _____

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE

COUNTY

STATE

COUNTY

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

James T. Wollon, Jr., A.I.A./Sibyl Brown, Research Historian

ORGANIZATION

DATE

Valleys Planning Council

April 10, 1980

STREET & NUMBER

TELEPHONE

212 Washington Avenue

828-7807

CITY OR TOWN

STATE

Towson

Maryland

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 267-1438





BA 1694

West House

GSVHD

Valley Rd.

JTW

8-22-79

Md.Hist.Tr.

from East